DEMOLISH

demolish evolves. issue 4. punk ass zine.

demolish evolved. issue 4. punk ass zine. ..... me electric eye. dead christians. & just a fire. plus Antiart and junk.

steve towson. the electrice eye. dead chretiens & just a fire. plus antiart and junk.

Harmony: Dead Kennedys - Fresh Fruit for Rotting Vegetables

Well I'm just about to tie things up for this issue. I'm writing this now even though the issue is not finished yet. I am calling this issue the "I'm too lazy, I'm leaving in 7 days hurry up and slap it together half assed" issue. Yes I know this issue doesn't have that much content, and I know that if I don't put a heap in, that the same 4 kids who buy this would still buy it, so this is all your gonna get. That is for now. But what is content, heaps of band interviews? Heaps of reviews? Well I beg to differ, I find that less is more. If you have 3 interviews, you dedicate yourself to making them great, and the reader can get dedicated to reading them instead of passing by. By the way I get bored with interviews very easily. Plus bands don't want to be in zines, bands I think don't understand zines. But don't worry I will be doing a special New Zealand issue over there with interviews with all the sheep loving bands I can find. With flights as cheap as they are now from NZ I think we need to seal the gap and get New Zealand punk bands touring over here and vice versa.

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Special message to Brisbane residents: Get your ass down to the QLD art gallery and check out the minsters awards exhibition and have a look and my monkey painting(and the others of course), it is on until May, I think.

DEMOLISH DISTRO IS NOT DEAD, it's just gone to sleep for a few months while I'm travelling.

I'm just going to get a few rants off my chest now. Fuck e-zines, the Internet is fucked. If you read about it on the Internet it's most likely bullshit, fucking Internet punks!

I'm sick of distro's that only stock per-zines with ramblings about first pubic hairs, uncontrollable boners, first periods, suicide notes and bullshit like that, sure I like to read about some of that stuff, but diversity is much better. Open your minds!

If everyone is a graphic designer, how come there is so much shit design around?

Metaphoric quote: My scissors are blunt.

Cliché is for the next generation.

The great thing about zines, and I think a lot of zinesters don't know this, is that you can say what ever you want. Simple. Don't be bought by customary thinking.

I'm a corporate slut. Thank you Nescafe. Jealous?

Computers make you oppress and lie. Do you realise how many times you correct something you right on a computer. Your first thoughts are normally the truth and the correction is a watered down truth.

Simple way to live life, stay positive! In what ever you do

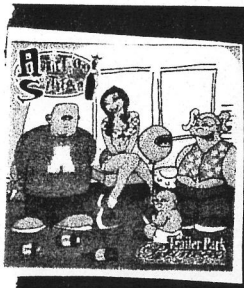
VARIATION RECORDS loves you, so don't worry. What the fuck is Variation records? It is my label and I am releasing a compilation when I get back to Australia, so send in all your music and I might put it on. I will get in contact with you for extra info and photos and shit, if I want to put one of your tracks on it. So if you don't hear from me, well it's pretty obvious. Send in punk music, music that is different, music that no one wants to hear, political music, hip hop, electro shit, anything, that's what I want. This will not be your run of the mill compilation with the usual annoying bands on it. I will be working hard on compiling this and doing good artwork. I'm not sure if it will be a benefit compilation, but what I can tell you is that it will come with an issue of Demolish and will be dirt-cheap. something like $5 for both.

Goad for this number: Toys That Kill, Dead Kennedys, Causey Way, Short Fast Loud, MRR, Kraak! Whore, French punk, Popular Shapes, Noise zine section, Building Records, DIY scenes everywhere! And Steve Towson.

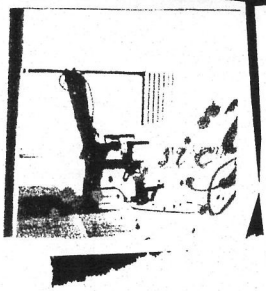
MUSIC R

Best Album: Popular Shapes – Bikini Style *(On/On Switch)*
Best EP: Toys That Kill – Flys *(Asian Man)*
Best 7": Popular Shapes/ The Intelligence *(Dirtnap)*
Best Aussie Release: The Disables – The Lackey Country *(Waterfront)*

A Small Victory – The Pieces we keep
Lobster Records
The first track is very weak, you can almost not hear the guitars, and I find with bands like this, most of the music is overpowered with the vocals. If the American accent doesn't piss you off that much and you like your punk more melodic and emoish this is probably yours. If I try to think of an Australian band like this I have to lean towards Silent Corporation.
(Lobster Records, PO Box 1473, Santa Barbara, CA 93102, USA www.lobsterrecords.com)



Addiction 64 -Trailer Park Princess - Live at the Corner Hotel
Care Factor Records
Messy live recording of one of Australia's best ska bands. This wasn't meant for a release but ended up getting released anyway. I think that is good because not many Australian bands release live albums. This only cost five bucks and has great art work by Pete. I like how they hate Australian bands singing with American accents. Support Care Factor, they support Australian punk.
(www.carefactor.live.com.au)

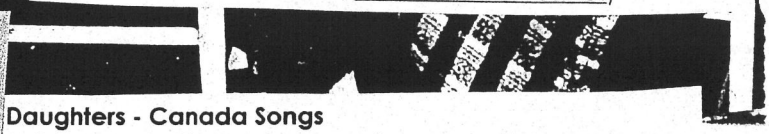


Away From Now – Sic Semper Tyrannis
Pee Records/ Shock
The third release for Melbourne hardcore/emo rock outfit, Away From Now. This EP is definitely a step up from the 'Shadows Allude Invade' cd. Not just the songs, but also the whole quality. Well produced, heavier, and the artwork is a lot more interesting. My favourite tracks are 'hollow empty vessel' and 'apron strings around the neck'. When I heard Pete was singing a band, I was really curious to see who it would be, and when I found out it

was AFN I was really intrigued, and knew it would be a solid first release, no short cuts here. Can't wait to see what else Pee records has install for us this year, besides the Pee Approved comp.
(Pee Records, P.O. Box 238 Marden, SA 5070, www.peerecords.com)

Bombscare – Incite
Independent
Fucking excellent CD. Aussie political punk with all the attitude and anger that is needed. Great vocals, great lyrics, well put together songs. The guitars are more melodic then heavy, which I prefer, it ads a more pop side to this style. Almost every song is a gem, have I mentioned how much I love music with a social/political side to it? Especially when it is satirical.
(oibombscare@hotmail.com)

Cria Cuervos – Soap Opera (sample)
Independent
This band is a female three piece from France, who play fast political punk rock. I wish I could speak French. I'm going to learn it one day. There are some really great bands coming out of France at the moment and I'm definitely going there next! I was supposed to do an interview with someone from Cria Cuervos but it just never happed. Will be in issue 5 though. This cd comes with 3 songs taken from the album "Soap Opera" and has 2 bonus mpeg videos of live performances.
(Cria Cuervos, C/o T.Moya – 3 Allee Des Cystises, 91100 Corbeil-Essonnes – France, www.criacuervos.net)



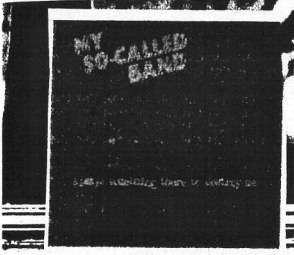
Daughters - Canada Songs
Building/ Robotic Empire records
Slipknot sounds like radiohead when compared to this!
(Building Records, 16 Lothlan Street Annerley, QLD 4103 Australia, www.buildrecords.com)

Duvall – Volume & Density Not supposed to be italics OK
Asian Man Records
This CD isn't really my cup of tea, but I've given it a go. It's really nice pop rock. I could see this getting air play on the J's, if it was on capitol. This reminds me of new Eskimo Joe stuff. Give this to your girlfriend, she'll love it.
(Asian Man Records, Po Box 35585, Monte Serno, CA 95030, USA, www.asianmanrecords.com)

EE – Ramadan
Asian Man Records
This is really basic post-rock pop background music. Sometimes instrumental, other times it just has really quiet "nice" vocals. I'm not sure this needed to be re-released. I can listen to half the CD, but it becomes too much and I have to turn it off, like I get a hold of my self and I realise that I don't like it and it's pissing me off.
(Asian Man Records, Po Box 35585, Monte Serno, CA 95030, USA, www.asianmanrecords.com)

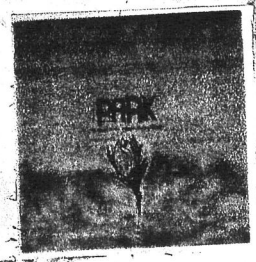
five star eighty -s/t
Independent
oh my god. This is, well... really bad pop-punk. These guys used to live in Townsville, but moved to Melbourne. I don't know if they have done much there. The vocals are terrible, as are the lyrics. Where is my shot gun?

Musclecar – Single as Usual
Mondo Bizarro Records
This is like a bad rock version of Millencolin. Actually, this sounds like pop punk with out the punk, does that make sense?
(Muscle Car, PO Box 18, Modbury North, S.A, 5092)



My So-called Band – Always something there to destroy me
Suicide Watch Records
This fits more into he rock n roll genre then the punk genre, with heaps of solo guitar parts, which I kind of hate. This seems very old school as well. This band seems like the band the guy at your local second hand CD store would be in. You know the guy, long hair, late 30's, can't

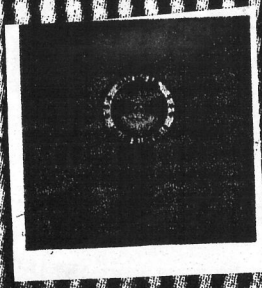
let go of shit music. I'm not saying this is shit, but it's pretty average in me books.
(Suicide Watch Records, PO Box 9599, Charlotte, NC 28299)



Park – It won't rain where you're going
Lobster Records
Emo, need I say more.
(Lobster Records, PO Box 1473, Santa Barbara, CA 93102, USA www.lobsterrecords.com)

Popular Shapes – Bikini Style
On/On Switch Records
Holey shit, this kicks arse. Shredding guitars in the vein of DK, and relentless original vocals. Fast snotty mid-tempo punk rock. This is where punk is for me. This is hardcore, yet poppy, yet arty and yet they definitely where their punk rock hearts on their sleeves. Every song on this album is great. I can't praise this album enough! The artwork is great, best album cover I've seen all year, reminds me a lot of Gerling artwork. TOP NOTCH release. Come to Australia guys, please! 10 out of 10!
(On/On Switch, PO Box 641122, SF, CA 94164, www.ononswitch.com)

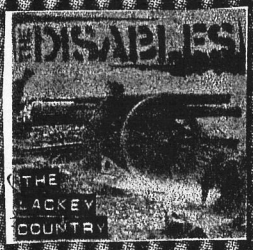
Squirtgun – Fade to Bright
Honest Dons Records
Do you know what really pisses me off, cd's with fucking extra multimedia enhanced shit. They don't fucking play on your computer. Some do, but this doesn't. Well with that aside lets get to the review. Pop punk that is really bassy. The good kind of pop punk, you know like the descendents. (hey Shock records when am I getting a descendents cd to review?) . If you can get over the sometimes annoying vocals this is pretty good. The stand out track is obviously 'Make it Wreck', featuring Justin Sane, but he doesn't do much, it would still be as good with out him. If this sounds like your thing, get this cd then let the guys know how much you want them to come to Australia. They want to tour here. Mass was down here producing Scarred Hopes album not long ago and gave some cd's to Bianca from 15p and she sent me this.
(Honest Don's, PO Box 192027, San Francisco, CA 94119-2027, www.honestdons.com)



Strength Within - We Deliver
Common Bond Records
Strong debut release from this Penrith hardcore band. This should be a must have for any hardcore fans out there. None of this new screamo emotional crap on here. Just six straight forward Australian hardcore songs. With guest vocals by Greg from Against. Another reputable release from common bond, putting Australia on the map!
(www.commonbondrecords.com)

The Daylight Curse – While I breath I hope
Strike 1 records

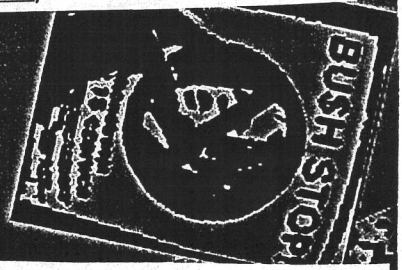
This record is quite an immature release for this new band, I expect they will grow as musician as time passes. It reminds me a lot of a metal band from a high school battle of the bands. With all the metal riffs you can poke a stick at. The lyrics are extremely emotional, but you don't get any emotional singing, it's hardcore in the vocals section. I feel the lyrics don't fit well around the music a lot of time. The release sees Strike 1 records take a step away from the more punk side of things over to metal, I'm not saying that's a bad thing, I guess they are broadening their roster. The artwork is quite good, but I think the dove/bird thing has been used to death. As for the music, I think it is just to metally for me.
(www.strike1records.com



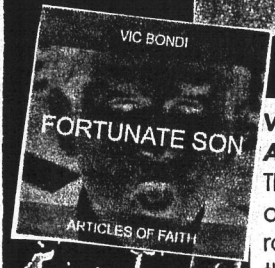
The Disables – The Lackey Country – Ep
Waterfront Records
This is really awesome true Aussie punk rock. They are from Brisbane. From the first track you know what they are about. The first track is Vulture st, isn't that what powder finger's new album is called? Must be a popular street in Brissie. This CD doesn't play on my computer 'cause it has a video of 'Lackey Country'. Which is my pick of the album, awesome track, it would be a good sing-a-long song live. The vocals are great, that is the main thing that stands out to me for this band. Awesome release. I don't know how you can get this CD, try going to www.thedisables.com.

The Gels – Never mind the title here's
Rising Star Music
Firstly, to any band out there, don't copy the sex pistols cover, it is so unoriginal and is just stupid. Secondly, if you make an album, don't just compile all your old shit from past singles and ep's and say we have a new album. Make an entire new album! To the music, Aussie pub

Thrall - Lifer
Alternative Tentacles Records
This is dark and experimental punk/metal with a very interesting twist on political music, with the lyrics "Jesus didn't die on a cross, he escaped and moved to France and formed a cult, he made a living selling snake oil, and writing science fiction novels". This isn't your average RATM run of the mill stuff. If you like your music with riffs, and added audio clips from the news and old movies, you will like this. It is a shame I haven't had a chance to listen to this more to give it a better review. I will review it in issue 5, and explain more.
(Alternative Tentacles Records, PO Box 419092, San Francisco, CA 94141-9092, USA, www.alternativetentacles.com)



Toys That Kill – Flys
Asian Man records
Toys That Kill are my favourite band at the moment, next to Popular Shapes that is. These letters I type can never do them justice for how good they are. You just have to hear them to know what I'm talking about. This is like nothing you've heard before. They are known for having members of FYP. I think FYP should be know for once having members of this band (does that make any sense?) It's poppy but not in a shit way. The lyrics are really original and are sung and pieced together in a way not many how to do well. This is the future of punk rock, it's old school but it is so modern. Every song is completely different, yet they are all so obviously Toys That Kill songs. Fucking unbelievable release! The best ep I've heard all year. This is limited so try and get it.
(Asian Man Records, Po Box 35585, Monte Serno, CA 95030, USA, www.asianmanrecords.com)



Vic Bondi/ Articles of Faith – Fortunate son EP
Alternative Tentacles Records
This is the first release from Vic Bondi in 8 years, and it is still as god as ever. This is Fantastic. The first track is really rocking heavy punk rock with harsh old school vocals, but then has this break down part with interesting lyrics and guitaring. Vic was inspired to write and record this due the threat of war. The second song is a cover of John Fogerty's classic about class and war, 'Fortunate Son'.

There are also two old Articles Of Faith songs. Fucking relevant cd for today.
(Alternative Tentacles Records, PO Box 419092, San Francisco, CA 94141-9092, USA, www.alternativetentacles.com)

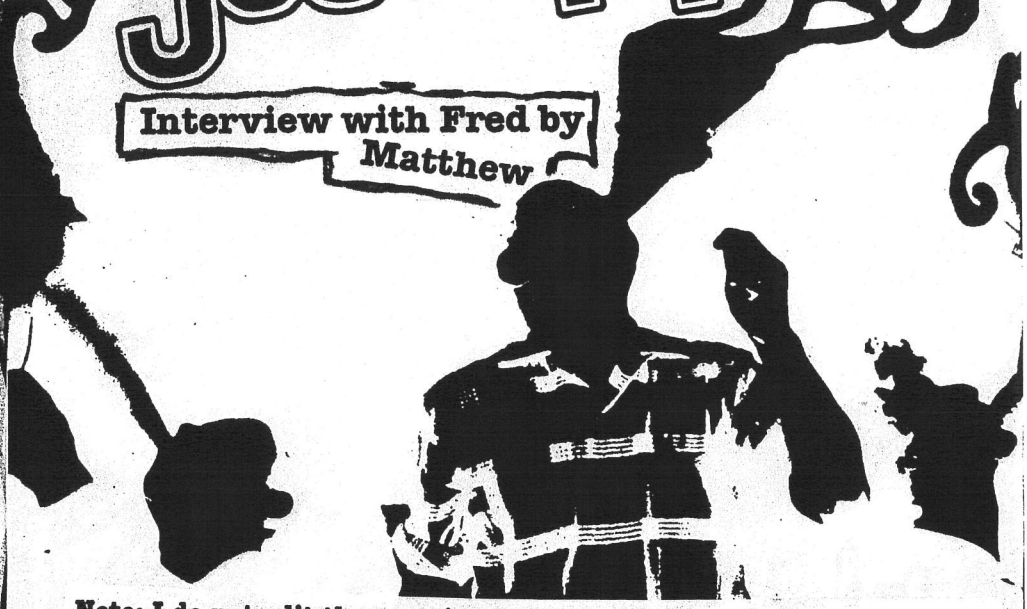
V/A Dirtnap Across the Northwest
Dirtnap Records
Dirtnap records is one of my favourite US labels, and this is the perfect CD for any new comers to the label out there. It doesn't just have bands from the label, but heaps of awesome punk bands in many styles. It has bands: The Epoxies, The Exploding Hearts(RIP), The Intelligence, The Diskords, The Triggers, The Electric Eye and The Spits, just to name a few. I have feeling Shock might be distroing Dirtnap in Australia, 'cause I saw a review of the spits in Blunt and it said shock/dirtnap. If so hopefully they do every new release, so us Aussies can get them easier. Great artwork throughout the booklet. Get this from knowcrap.com
(Dirtnap Records, Po Box 21249, Seattle WA 98111, www.dirtnaprecs.com)

Building records presents 60 SONGS
Building records
This CD with out doubt is the greatest compilation I own. Holey shit, it's great. So many different styles, yet more leaning towards the harder side of things. Almost every song is really good. I'm not going to tell you who is on here, but for $12 you can find out for yourself.
(www.buildwebstore.com)

Turn my nobs and send your CD's (and so-forth) in for review!!!
DAVOLISH ZINE
12 CONEMARA CRS
TOOMSVILLE QLD
4815 AUSTRALIA

JUST A FIRE

Interview with Fred by Matthew



Note: I do not edit the questions that are sent to me, so all the incorrect spelling and "bad" gramma is the bands fault and they take all responsibility. Plus it makes it more interesting.

Demolish- After forming in late 2002, you wasted no time in releasing a great album, what was the initial steps in making the album, was there a certain message you wanted to get across? How did you end up on Asian Man Records?

JAF- we just got together and started working on some songs i had written. they changed drastically as we learned to play together. scott has a studio, so we decided to start demoing them. it took a few tries, but we had time to mess around. we went in whenever the studio was free. it took us months, but we were in no great hurry. in the mean while we had been sending some demos out to folks we knew who had labels. mike (from asian man) is a friend of chris's. chris had sent him one and his response was immediate. he was enthusiastic about it right about the time we were finishing up. it just worked out.

Demolish- Your music has a very dub/ska feel to it, is that the clash influence coming through. Are there many other influences that you could link to your like for this sound?

JAF- when i was a kid, my step brother introduced me to the two tone scene...specials, english beat, madness, selecter, etc.
i went crazy for it. it has always stuck with me. From there i went on to get into punk and hardcore, all the while digging in to reggae. i found marley, steel pulse, and black uhuru first, then went on to dig deeper into desmond dekker, jimmy cliff, lee perry. the more i found the deeper i dug. horace andy, ken boothe, alton ellis, skatalites, king tubby, you get the picture.
for the other guys, that stuff has always been peripherial. but, i like the influence they bring. So our songs get a tinge of that stuff without being stuck as a ska band or whatever.
other influences for myself and the other guys are all over the place. i went through the same craze of buying records for soul, country, hip hop, b bop, hard bop, fusion, what have you. i'd say the mutual for the three of us is classic rock though, thin lizzy, zz top, zep, you know?

Demolish- Can you tell me what "snake in that bush" is about?

JAF- it's about shock, disgust, disbelief...after the 2000 presidential elections.

Demolish- You are all from other bands, are you all dedicated to Just a Fire, or do you still play in the others?

JAF- right now. the onlly other active band i play in is abilene. scott plays with abilene also. we're dedicated to it, but we don't play as much. the same for chris with haymarket riot. i think just a fire is our main focus.

Demolish- How does a JAF (if you don't mind me abbreviating) song come together, and what's your favourite?

JAF- now we write together. i'll bring in and idea, maybe some lyrics. we just punch out all the changes together. it works out best that way. the songs work better for everyone. and as a whole. my favorite is what ever our newest song is at the time. we're working on writing a new record. all the songs so far kick each other's asses.

Demolish- Do you guys want to go over seas? You should come to Australia, the weather is great here, well wait a few months it's a bit hot right now.

JAF- yes. and we did go to japan in november. we'll be going to europe in april. and yes, we do want to come to australia. i came in 99 with june of 44 and it was one of the best times i ever had.

Demolish- In Chicago is it really scene orientated, are there any bands you are really digging from there at the moment?

JAF- we just have a bunch of friends who play music. We don't always play together, but sometimes we do. Bands here that i like are the eternals, the zzzzs, the watchers, tite phantomz, new black...to name a few. i don't feel like there is one cohesive scene. it's just a bunch of people playing music who sometimes get together. or maybe im missing something.

Demolish- You have a very distinctive original way of singing, how did you come up with this, is it natural? Do you think it is original?

JAF- i've always done it that way. i think its bad for my health. i swear its different when im at home writing. when i get in front of a mic, it just comes out kind of crazy. i don't want to stop it. Just harness it better.

Demolish- What's the plans for the new year?

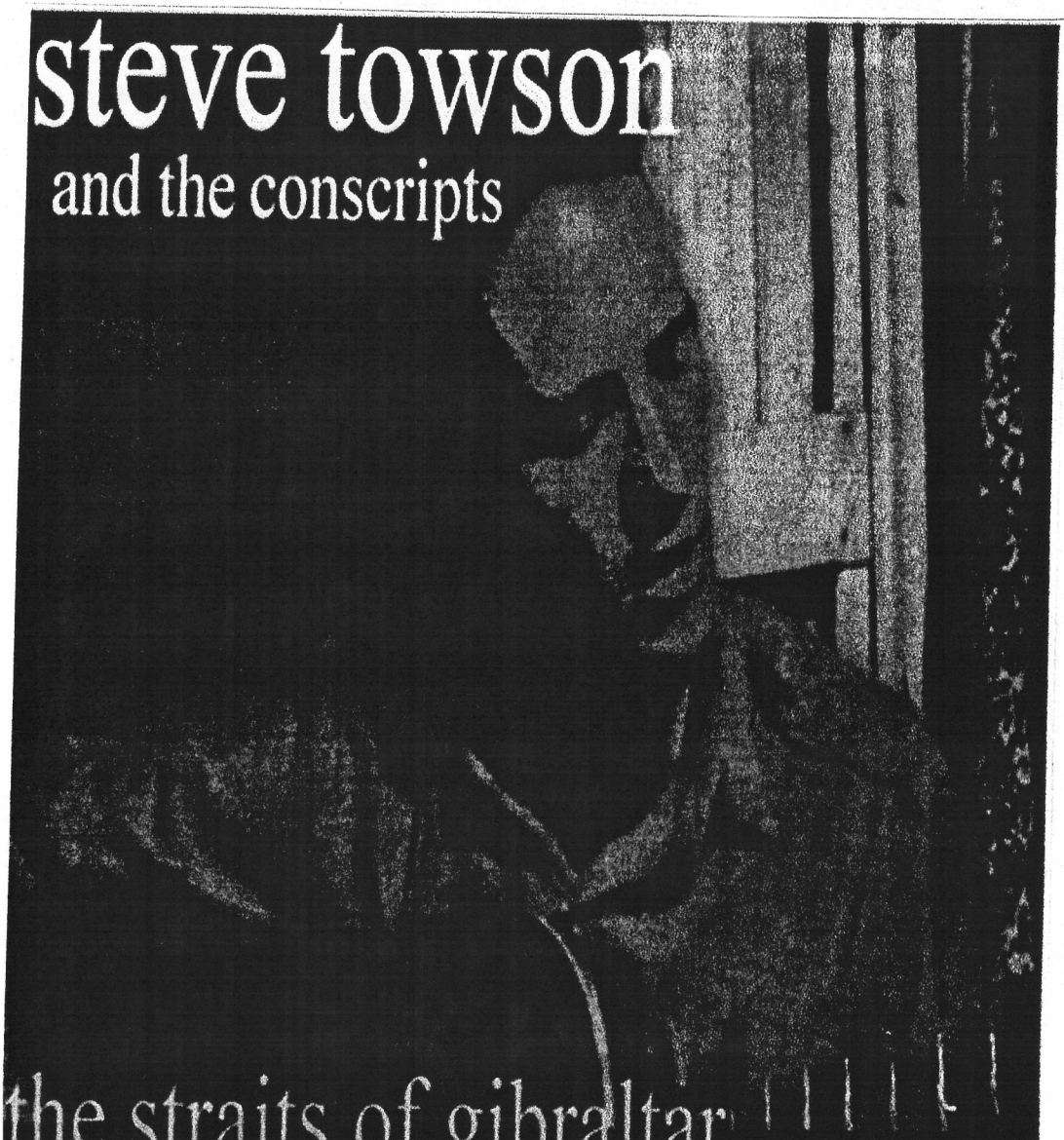
JAF- our plans this year are to (ideally) finish writing this record, go to europe, come home and record. Do some regional shows until the record comes out then hit the u.s. again. and of course come to Australia as soon as we can.

Demolish- Anything you would like to add? How can the kids get a hold of you, how can they get "light up" easily?

JAF- you can contact us at justafirechicago@yahoo.com or go to asianmanrecords.com to for updates and contact about the cd. we don't have our own website up yet, but are working on it. also, we have vinyl of "light up". it's on sick room records. i dont' know his websit off the top of my head, but if you want vinyl, contact the yahoo address above.

steve towson

and the conscripts



the straits of gibraltar

Australian tour - proudly presented by CrimInAll records

QLD tour - 15th - 24th June

NSW tour 25th - 30th June

TAS tour - 1st - 2nd July

VIC tour 3rd - 7th July

SA tour - 8th - 12th July

check street press, community radio and *www.stevetowson.com* for shows in your city, town

DEAD CHRETIENS

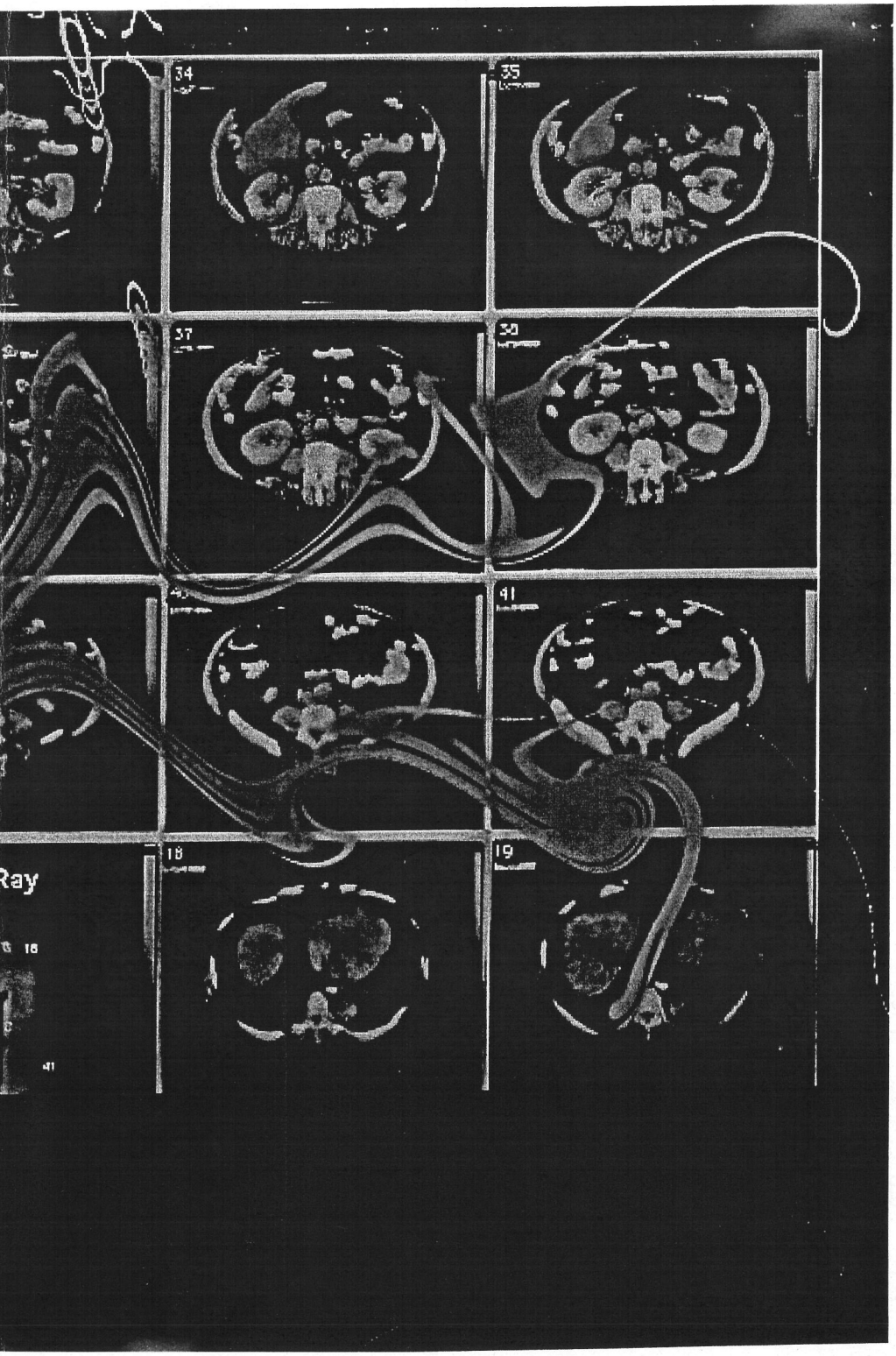
This is an internet conversation I had with Jeremy. Read on and you'll see why its printed here. He makes spunk zine as well.

from Canada, Yah. www.deadchretiens.com

is this spunk?
yup
hey is that DC thing justa big joke? I had a little listen to the cd, is it just nofx covers?
no man
it's only 1 NOFX cover that was a joke
is it your band?
yup
listen to the other songs they are OK
it's not a good recording I was just fukcing around with some songs
whats happening with your zine at the moment?
how long have you been doing it?
not too much
my zine? 5 years
really
is it pretty big in Canada?
are there any other candian zines
i know there was one called soap and spikes have you heard of that?
it used to be good
I don't really do it anymore
okay
whys that
I lost faith in music
you had ads and shit from fat wreck and victory hey?
it all sucks now
really
thats to bad
you dont need faith in music to do a zine
have I sent you issue 3 of demolish>?
what the point of reviewing shitty CD after shitty CD
really
sweet I like your zine
so your not into punk music?
reminds me of my zine when I started
I said that was one thing i like about your zine, if you dont like something you say so
pete from pee likes your zine
Pete is fucking cool
yeah but it got to a point were I didn't like anything anymore
yeah, even if he does like a lot of crap bands
hahaha
fucking emo geek
so what type of music does DC make?
hahaha
nah hes more into pop punk and melodic stuff
we are a post-hardcore-screamo-indie-melodic-surf-skate-emo-pop-punk
oh
hahaha
that's what ever review is now days
how do you mean
can you give the "WEATAX" are real review man?
weatax?
i havent got any from them
our album
oh
are you going to print my ad?
did you get the new DC ad?
its a little dodgy
i can if you want
it might not show up to well
sweet
if i remeber I will put it in
did the new Peezine come out yet?
yep
ive got it in my distro
if you put it in I will send you some buttons, and vinyl stickers for your distro
okay cool
pee is like 90 pages now
fuck
how did he get so big?
i dont know
and its properly printed
he is doing an a4 size issue for issue 30 maybe, and he releases a new comp
he puts so much into his zine
its crazy
we used to be hand in hand, they as soon as he when color cover, boom everything exploded for him
he is crazy, how does he find time
true
the first issue i got was colour
ive got some black and white ones now
B/W is more punk!
hahah
yeah
I never liked color shit!!
i did a colour cover for issue 2 but fuck did it cost heaps
fucking ghetto punk
i went back to black and white for issue 3
it's not worth it
i know
its only a zine
im going to start working on issue 4 soon. I printed 100 copies of issue 3 and they are all gone. I don't know if im doing another print run or not
humm
I will send you a couple comps we made it on for review
how old are you?
23
do you have a job?
nope
and I'm a pot head too
what do you want to do?
they got pot in canada, hahah
we got the good shit
on the simpsons the other night they showed the filiming of canading graffitti, and they were spraying on the walls, follow the rules
i cracked up
you should use this conversationg for a Dead Chretiens interview
I got pics I can send you right now
this convo right now?
yeah
alright
this conversation goes on for ages about heaps of shit. But you get the picture.

www.deadchretiens.com

33
X-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WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE LAZY

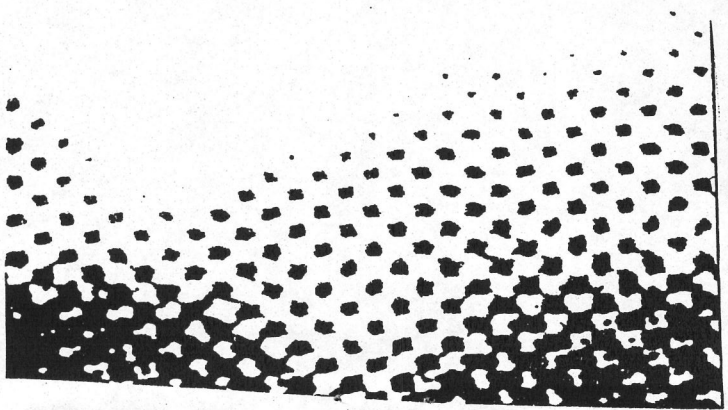
FUC

AUSTRALIA

The New Far-out Beat

MARIJUANA'S TURNED-ON MILLI

PRUE ACTON:
SUCCESS STOR



1. Reaction by Jean Michel Basquiat

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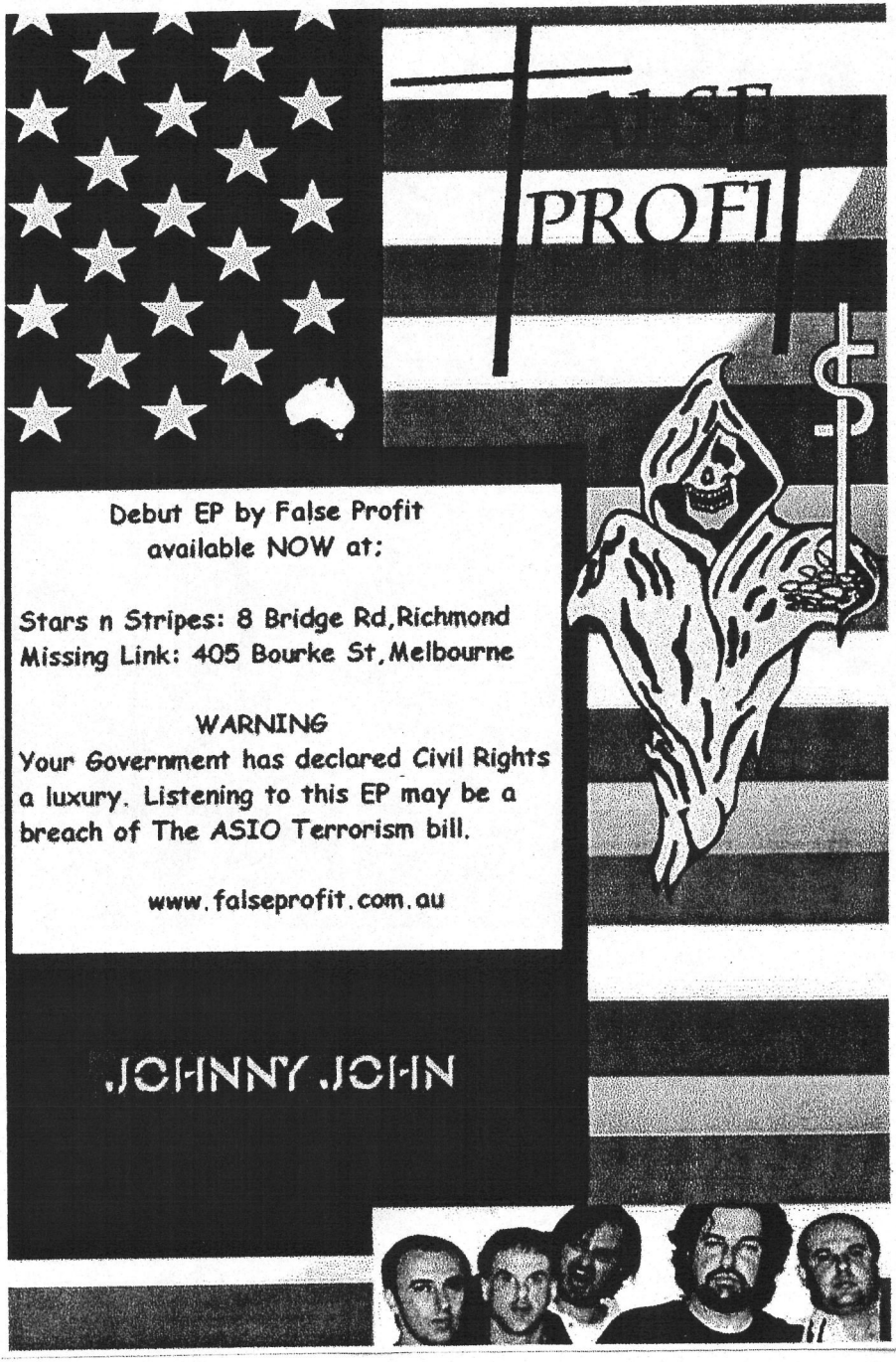
STAGNANCY

_'MIX WELL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why you should stay at home and leech

off your parents for as long as you can

by Kati Kraak! Whore

I remember the day I was moving out, my friend who hadn't helped me pack was telling me how excited she was, and how that song by Jebediah **Leaving home** was running through her head. All that was running through my head was how stressful moving was – let alone moving out of home.

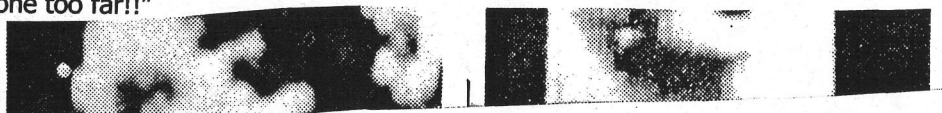
Unless you have Nazi control freak parents who don't trust you or let you do anything or give you money – I suggest you stay at home for as long as you can. Being independent is exactly like living at home except you have to do everything. Why would you actually WANT to do your own washing, grocery shopping, washing up, bill paying and all that other bullshit – when you could live it up at home. Believe me – there is nothing cool about responsibility. Just think, a home cooked meal every night, which you didn't help make at all

VS

A piece of shit dinner you threw together because you were sick of eating 2 minute noodles.

Parents are good for money as well. And you don't have to pay for extra stuff – like if you wanna get a video out, your parents pay for it. Mums are really good at getting sick of looking at all your dirty clothes and washing them for you. How fucken great is that!

And before any of you pampered fuckers tell me that if you move out you can have parties every night – I suggest you actually move out and experience having your house raided by the police just coz the music was too loud and everyone getting busted for drugs and stolen street signs and trolleys. Of being evicted for having a fucking house warming party. Parties are much better at your parent's house when they've gone away for the weekend in an attempt to rekindle their sex life. The reason? Because the neighbours are more tolerant because they know a family lives there and for all they know, the parents are having a party. But if you don't live at home and have a party... Fuck. The fucken neighbours call the cops straight away because they think
"Fucking junkie kids. Their Satan worshipping and intravenous drug use has gone too far!!"



and that's it. They see you with a black t-shirt that says NO-WAR and all of a sudden you're a fucking criminal.
Don't even get me started on bills. Do you know how much is costs JUST to get electricity hooked up? $90 bucks. That's a fucking Big Day Out ticket – and the Big Day Out is a rip off. I think it cost that much for the phone as well – but I wouldn't know, I refuse to pay it. I just use my mobile. Ohmy God Spod just came on the radio. I fucking hate Spod.
But I guess that's one good thing about moving out. You can listen to what ever you want – you own the stereo.
And you can bring people home. You know what I mean.

steve towson

Steve Towson is a Brisbane based punk-blues-reggae solo artist, who has a very DIY and get out there approach to music. Steve is touring around America and Canada at the moment, and may even be recording his album in New York which will be produced by Victor Ruggiero from the slackers!

When did your passion for music start, and when did you decide that you wanted to do this full time?

The passion started in primary school, that's when I really started getting into music. But full time, I've always wanted to do it full time. Taking yourself seriously really believe you can do something out of it, whether it is earning a living. Probably about 2 to 3 years ago, because half the time you think that to be a successful musician you've got to make money regularly like any other profession, but depends what you want to get out of it I suppose.

So you don't have a "job" now, you just do your music?

Just music. Organising gigs, promoting gigs, try and do a bit of art work.

What sort of Art work do you do?

Just gigs art, artwork for flyers

I think Pete from Pee zine wants to know, can you sing?

Can I sing? Not the way he wants. I don't have an American accent, which is a big aspect in singing in Australia. I don't sound like any major label bands, which is a big aspect in Australia. All my favourite singers can't sing, According to some people. But technically that can't sing. But you look at The Clash,

Johnny Rotten.

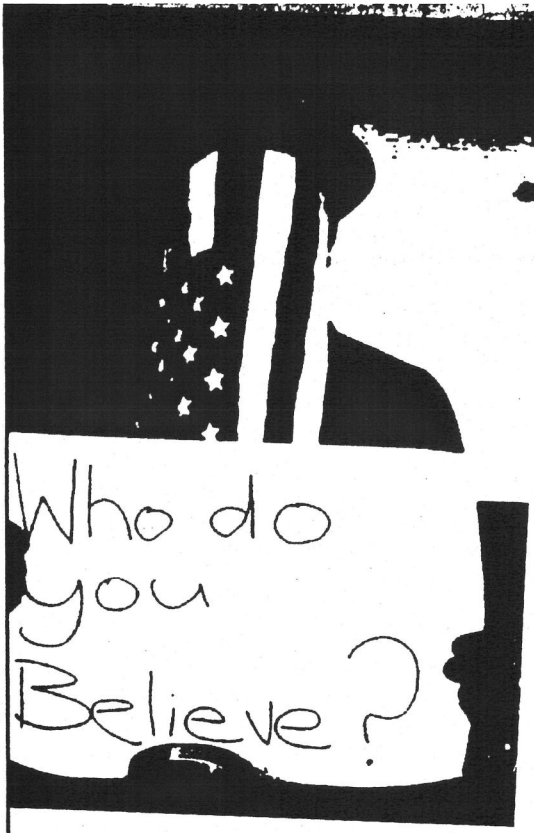
Jello Biafra. You know they don't sound like anything, who do they sound like? "oh they sound fucking horrible, they can't sing". But once you get established. Like Billy Bragg, that dude can't sing, but it's his lyrics and what he sings, it sounds genuine. Whether I can sing like that, that's up to the people to decide. I'd rather be genuine then full of shit and sounding like an American pop punk band.

Was there one band or musician that changed you in any way?
I think everyone takes part in process. Bob Marly was huge, Peter Tosh, A lot of reggae artists. Reggae really influenced me. The slackers, probably several years ago were really awesome. Just to see that they are a band from the states that is doing something interesting. And they are on a major, well not a major as such, but they are on Hellcat and Epitaph, and yet they sound nothing like a lot of the other shit bands churned out of the states, which is really good. The guy who is the main song writer, he has really nailed melodies and compositions as well as his production, raw as fuck hey. It's produced well, but the trumpets and the horns and the trombones are just raw as hell. Yeah it's a very gritty awesome production.

When did you first start getting into the political side of things, or do you tend to give it another name, like socialism or something else?
I suppose it depends on who I'm trying to sell it to. Like if I'm trying to sell it to cool guys, who like AFI cause they are tuff and they are anti-authoritarian. I mean AFI are okay. No it's Anti-flag that I'm thinking of. I have some friends at the moment who love Anti-flag at the moment and AFI. They love Anti-Flag cause they are street punks and they're anti-authoritarian. If I'm trying to sell it to them, and I'm trying to make money and be cool, then I would say I'm a political song writer. But I just don't like taking shit from idiots and I don't see why our society spends so much time kissing peoples asses. I mean if someone is going to fuck your family over. What do you do? "Fair enough it is a government I'm going to keep my mouth shut". I mean the governments are supposed to be representative and if they aren't representing the majority of people in society. They become an elected dictatorship. It's not necessarily being political. It's just saying I'm not going to tolerate someone punching one of my best friends in the face or sexually harassing my mum or my girlfriend or someone like that and at the same time I'm not going to tolerate a government who's going to take money that friends and your family work hard for and then spend it on warfare. Just spend it on making more profit for themselves. Maybe that's political but it's also, I think intelligent. Maybe punk, I don't know.

If a big indie label approached you and wanted to sell your ideals more then your music, would you go ahead with it?
I think the ideal and music are interlinked. I prefer not to be told what to do by anyone and I think at the same time that's my music. "when are you going to get a band to play behind ya!?". When I fucking want.

When did you go at it alone, was it a conscious decision to not form a band or did it just turn out that way?
Well I've played in two bands before and I think it got to the point in the last band I was in where I mean I've had heaps of people offer to play with me, you know do drums and bass, but I just don't like fucking around when it comes to music. Because when it's something your passionate about there is no point fucking around with it. "I can't play a gig tomorrow cause I want to hang out with my girlfriend". That's cool, but if you've got a gig already booked, then that is what you commit to. Just like if you say to someone I can't play a gig cause I'm hanging out with this person next week, that's fair enough cause it's a commitment you've already made. I think towards the end of the last band, there was a lot of instances where I'd organise a gig 2 months ahead and someone would ring up the day before and say I can't do the gig tomorrow cause I wanna do this. Cause it was such short notice I was going well fuck, someone has go to do it. And if I give my word to a project that I'm doing then I will do it by myself. I started doing stuff by myself and then I went fuck it. You don't compromise your principals and you don't betray people. A lot of venues have got cool people that run them. Some of them are dickheads but either way someone is putting you on a Friday night. That's a night where they could potentially be making money. Either that or they could put any band on to give a go and if you are just going to screw everyone around, well then that's how music scene are destroyed. I've seen venues where three times in a row the band will ring up and say oh we can't play. That means that venue has got to ring around and ask favours of people to do stuff and that is how music scenes are destroyed. There is so many good bands out there that just need a go. And if you fuck people over like that you destroy a venue and scene.



I read somewhere that you were doing some work with a drummer, is that true?
I've been doing some jamming with a drummer at the moment.
But you wouldn't release it or anything?
It's sounding good. We've got two songs down now that are sounding really good just guitars and drums but whether or not we would follow through with that, people are like "you'd be like the white stripes" Yippy. We are like someone else. Where I would like it to be similar to my solo stuff where as it's easy to identify as your own sort of music.
Last year you played well over a hundred gigs. Did you make any money form them?
Yeah. Some heaps. Which is surprising. But it's not necessarily a conscious thing to you. You want to make money form your gigs so you can make more money for transport for more gigs and so you can support other bands. Like we put on gigs to give other bands more exposure cause they are really good bands but no one is giving them a go. Like in Toowoomba we started putting on heaps of gigs just so there is an alternative place to play outside Brisbane. Like coming up to North Queensland heaps. Is just that you find contacts. Like I know someone who lives in Rocky now who knows someone with a pub, so I might be able to get gigs there. I know someone here in Townsville at the murry station 4k1G who knows people who might be able to hook up some shows here. As well I know people in Cairns, and people in Mackay. There is no reason why there shouldn't be bands regularly touring.
No bands come up North
It's cause they are told, that Sydney and Melbourne is where you break it. Melbourne is full of all people who move there to "make it". The amount of people I have heard of moving to Melbourne to make it. "I'm leaving, I'm moving to Melbourne. There is heaps more opportunity for bands". Look at North Queensland. There is no interaction. So surely if you look at the laws of commerce, supply and demand. If there is nothing happening there, there is a demand. Even if it's 50 people. Where in Melbourne there is so many pubs, who is going to come? Maybe.
Most Townsville bands move down to Melbourne.
Melbourne or they moved to Brisbane to make it. Brisbane is the stepping stone. I don't know where you go after Melbourne, probably New York. "I can't make it anywhere I'm too big in Melbourne, I've got to move to New York to get bigger". I've got to move where no one knows me at all.
Because then you'll make it.
I'll get so popular I'll be huge.
Do you feel that political bands in Australia are to Americanised in Politics?
Maybe because our media is so American focused. I haven't really thought about that much before. Howard is also a very un-charismatic person, where as at least Bush is in idiot, obviously. Howard has been in for what 20 30 years. And I think over that period of time he has become part

of the woodwork of Canberra. He's been in Canberra for years. I guess it depends on your definition of politics. Band like Mutiny aren't really political as such but they are very social. Like "Police strike". I love their songs cause they have got social connotations. The rum rebellion. That album got heaps of songs about social issue. I was discussing with Ness earlier about realising a comp of Australian bands that release social songs.

Is there many out there?

Yeah, there's heaps. I mean band like community cervix in Birssy, they've got songs that are very very social very political, not mentioning political names as figure or anything, but "your just a dickless a politician". They are fun to watch, but some of their songs are very inviting with their social comments.

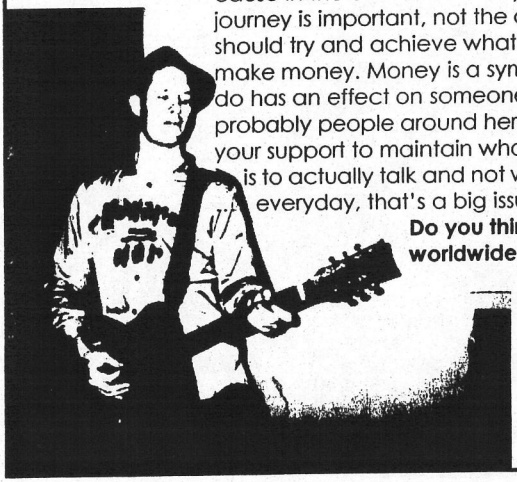
I think it is something that is going to increase overtime, because I think worldwide people are just getting sick of America. Even Americans are sick of America, which is why there is so many foreign directors employed now to do American films. I've talked to people who have actually lived in America and worked there, and they talked about how America is very self focused, like that it is the greatest country on the fucking earth. Which I'm sure was prevalent in Nazi Germany is world war 2.

What did you hope to achieve by playing outside the Billy Bragg shows?

Getting to go to Perth and Adelaide, and excuse to get out of Brisbane. Just to play music to people who appreciate bragg, not purely for his music, but for his social commentary. That was a big issue and I think there is a huge difference between myself and Billy Bragg musically. People just see a solo artists playing an electric guitar singing about social issues, "Oh Billy Bragg". But when you actually listen to it I don't think Billy Bragg swears in any of his songs, I don't think Billy Bragg screams in any of his songs or has distorted guitar. It was great to play to these people, so many really cool people went to these gigs. I talked to heaps of people outside his show and got offered about 5 or 6 free tickets to go in and see the shows at least. And one of the advantages also I got to meet Bragg, but it wasn't the main focus of the tour and talk to him in person.

When will we realise that we are the people who create the world, and how can people realise this?

I reckon if people just pull back for 5 minutes and really question what they want to achieve before they die. There is all this talk about getting ahead ion life and getting there quicker. Getting here, getting that done. What is getting ahead? A car can get you from A to B if its got 220 on the speedo, you can only drive 100 km and hour legally, There is no major rush to get to the end, cause in the end there is only death. It's what you do between A and B, the journey is important, not the outcome. People life's are short, and people should try and achieve what they want in their life, rather then just trying to make money. Money is a symbol so to create the world means everything you do has an effect on someone. The fact that you live in Townsville. There is probably people around here that require your views to complement theirs or your support to maintain who they are, the main way to get through to people is to actually talk and not watching telle everyday and not hoping on the net everyday, that's a big issue communication.



Do you think the Internet has given greater communication worldwide?

Yeah. But then again, what is the advantage of that? There are advantages, but there is also disadvantage, I mean how many emails do you need to get that say "increase your penis size today". It's quality of

conversation, not quantity. That's a big problem, people think that the more phone calls you get the better. If you've got a mobile phone you can talk to anybody all over the world. That is nothing in comparison to being able to hang out in person.

Who did your cover out for 1 shot at freedom?

The photo was taken by my cousin, and I altered it, to make my muscles look bigger.

Do you take much time worrying about the cover art and stuff like that, or is that not as important to you?

I'm not brilliant on the computer, so I take a lot of time trying to do something I've got the idea for, but I think it saves someone else doing it. I wouldn't really care as long as it reflects what my ideas are.

Can I do your next cover?

Give it a go, if looks crap, like you've got a picture of my holding a dildo or something, then I don't know about that hey.

You could get some chicks behind you shaken their asses

Yeah, I've been thinking about that, like big boobs around my head, a whole wall of boobs around me.

Hahaha

I reckon a lot of people would pick it up but

Yeah. That's it. Is there anything you want to add?

Ness, you can talk. Come on ness talk on tape. Ness.

Ness: I just think that's a dangerous question to ask,

Laughs,

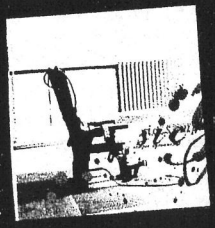
Ness: ra ra ra

Oh, Okay you can shut up now.

Check out all the tour dates and get the albums online at **www.stevetowson.com**

away from now

sic semper tyrannis



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ELECTRIC EYE

NME and every other lame magazine claims a new band as the saviours of rock every month, and they are just all over hyped, wannabe pieces of shit. But this is rock n Roll in its punkest hardest sense, and they won't be ruined by any shit promotion like that, thank god. The Electric Eye have a new album out on dirtnap (CD) and Jonny Cat (vinyl).

How long has The Electric Eye been together for, could you give us a brief history run down?

Lucas: Okay, I guess I should start with who everyone is and what we play, my name is Lucas and I play guitar, also in the band is August (singing), Ben (bass guitar), Nate (guitar) and Dana (drums). The Electric Eye has been together since the fall of 2000. Our first show was in May of 2001 at a Portland, OR bar called Billy Rays…I think it was for some wrestling event. Basically, Nate (the other guitarist) and I formed the band when I moved to Portland from Idaho and Nate moved here from Salem, OR. We formed the group with our original drummer, Jen. Soon after, Nate's brother Ben joined us on bass and August started singing for us. We have been playing off and on since then. We have taking a few breaks while August has been out of town for a few months. But basically have been doing it full time since then.

What type of music do you make?

Lucas: I'd say we play rock n' roll punk. We kinda pretend that we play psychedelic rock, but I don't think we have that quite down. We've always had the attitude that anything goes in our band, so we try just about everything from more hardcore to more garage rock. It also helps that most of our members come from different backgrounds and all write songs.

I just got your Electric Wisdom LP, and it shits over anything I've heard in a long time. What is the writing process for your songs, do you have a basic idea how you want an album to sound?

Lucas: Well thanks. Basically, we all write songs, so we get a bunch of different sounding styles, from real heavy AC/DC type rock to more 60s garage. I don't think we really have a particular idea of what we are going for except we want it LOUD. We always wanted our records to smoke.

You have a new 10" coming out soon. What label is that on, what will it be called, how can us Aussie's get it?

Lucas: I'm not sure what the format will be for our next release, but we definitely have something coming out. We have about 6 songs from our last recording session that will be released on the Texas label, Little Deputy Records. They have put out some great records from bands like the Motards. The release might even be a split LP with another band, but I'm not sure which band it will be with. How can an Aussie get it?? Order one from us!!

What's on the cover? Will it be released on CD as well?

Lucas: The art work for the next release will probably be similar to our last 7 inch, Raise The Sword. Our singer, August, did all the artwork for that 7 inch and he is going to do this release as well. I image that it will be something crazy. I think this will be released on vinyl only, which we like. We will be recording another full length in the summer of 04 which will be out on CD and LP though.

What bands have you been listening to lately, that might be less known here?
Lucas: There are lots of great bands coming out of our hometown of Portland. Check out the Minds, the Hunches, the Triggers. These bands all rule.

The album art is very interesting, is there a concept behind it?
Lucas: Our 2nd drummer, Geordie, did the painting for the full length, Electric Wisdom. I guess it might sound a bit cheesy,(although we are really cheesy), but the concept is that the giant eyeball is shooting down a Ray of Enlightenment. We came up with the idea of the record name while we were playing a bunch of out of town shows, we just thought it was sort of funny to think our music had any wisdom to it! So, the Ray of Enlightenment just sort of went with the theme. I think the next full length will have a similar theme or style of art.

No offence, but it reminds me a lot of a radiohead album cover, have you found that other people have seen this as well?
Lucas: Actually, nope.

If the opportunity arose to sign to a major, would you, or are you happy with the way things are going now?
Lucas: You know, I really doubt that a major would ever be interested in dealing with us. We are always stubborn about having our own way with all art work, webdesign, and any decisions with our band, so I think that might not work with the major label machinery. I think we are pretty happy with what we do now, we can tour when we want, we record when and how we want, and we can do whatever we want. All of the labels that have put out stuff of ours in the past have always been great to work with.

You did a huge tour last year, how did that go?
Lucas: Yeah, we did a big west coast tour last year. It went incredible well. We'll probably do another one once we release another record.

Who is the most annoying band member to tour with, and why?
Lucas: Probably Nate, because he stinks.

You should tour Australia, you would love it. You could show these idiots that Jet is not a rocking band. Any chance?
Lucas: We would love to tour Australia!! If anyone wants to book us some shows and pay for our plane tickets, we'll see you there!! Jet? What a bunch of babies.

What question do you wish us stupid zine makers would stop asking you and for what reason?
Lucas: Not sure, it seems like you are doing fine.

What questions do you wish you could get asked?
Lucas: Not really sure, we don't really have anything important to say!!!

Any last words, people you would like to thank?
Lucas: Thanks for taking the time to contacting us!

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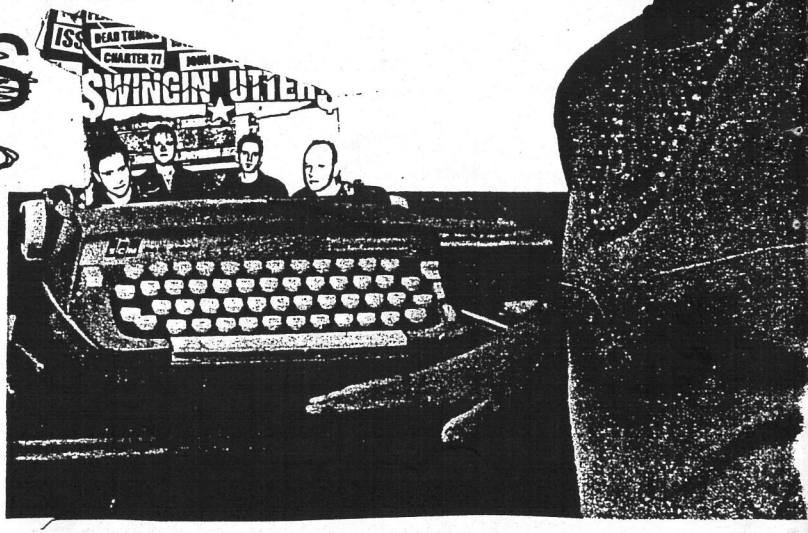

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